

# THE IBIS.

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## EIGHTH SERIES.

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No. VII. JULY 1902.

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XXIII.—*On the Birds of the Gold Coast Colony and its Hinterland.* By Capt. BOYD ALEXANDER.

[Concluded from p. 333.]

(Plates VIII. & IX.)

180. CHÆTURA USSHERI Sharpe.

*Chætura ussheri* Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 488, pl. x.

Two adult males from Gonieri, Gold Coast Hinterland.

This species appears to be rare in collections. There are three specimens from Cape Coast in the British Museum.

We obtained one of our birds out of a pair that were breeding in the hollow trunk of a baobab-tree. It was impossible to see the nest; the birds went down into the trunk from a hole at the top of the tree.

181. CYPSELUS AFFINIS Hardw.

*Micropus affinis* Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 453.

Kwobia, several specimens.

Found in small colonies in the Hinterland around the native villages, making use of the huts to build in.

“April 14, Gambaga.—Within the last few days, rain having fallen, a number of these Swifts appeared flying round the native huts and tall baobab-trees. Their flight is strong and very steady, as they glide at times through the air with motionless wings. They breed in April and are said to be resident at Gambaga.”

182. *TACHORNIS PARVA* (Licht.).

*Tachornis parva* Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 463 (1892); id. Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411.

Gambaga.

These specimens belong to the pale form of the species.

183. *CAPRIMULGUS RUFICOLLIS* Temm.

*Caprimulgus ruficollis* Saunders, Man. Brit. B. p. 259; Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 531.

An adult female, March 28, 1901, Gambaga.

This was the only occasion on which we observed this Nightjar at Gambaga. It was a solitary individual, and to all appearances a migrant.

I have carefully examined the British Museum examples of this species. In the collection there are several pale isabelline specimens from Spain, Morocco, and Algeria. The pale plumage has generally been considered to denote a variety of the adult. It is, however, I think, nothing more than the first winter dress of the young bird. Specimens from Spain obtained in May—the breeding-season—and also an example (ad. ♂) from Ben Moussar, Algeria, are darker and much more shaded with rufous. From the same locality as the latter bird there is a female in the pale plumage, that is, having the under parts shaded with isabelline; the feathers of the chest mottled and narrowly barred with grey, so as to form an irregular band across the chest. This specimen is identical with another from Morocco, and with an immature female obtained in August 1869 at Grenada, Spain. The Ben Moussar male example, however, agrees perfectly with our female from Gambaga; but both shew slight indications of their first winter plumage, a few of the chest-feathers being still mottled and barred with grey, and the general coloration a shade paler than the specimens from Spain.

Three fairly distinct phases in the plumage of this species may accordingly be observed—the pale isabelline coloration of the first winter plumage, gradually passing into a more rufous shade, and then becoming deeper and darker in the adult breeding-dress.

Unfortunately, with the exception of a nestling, there are

no specimens of this bird in the British Museum from Tunis. That country is supposed to have a separate resident form, *C. ruficollis desertorum* (Erlang. J. f. O. 1899, p. 521).

184. *CAPRIMULGUS SHARPEI* Alexander.

*Caprimulgus sharpei* Alexander, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 29 (November 1901).

Two adult males from Gambaga.

Similar to *C. trimaculatus*, but smaller and darker; upper parts less spotted, especially on the nape, and more uniform; under parts with the blackish bars on the chest running into each other, which causes this part to appear much darker than in *C. trimaculatus*. The two species may be compared as follows:—

*C. sharpei*.

Ad. ♂. Gambaga, Feb. 22, 1901. Total length (measured in the flesh) 9·3 inches, wing 7, tail 5·1, tarsus 0·06. Iris black. Sexual organs in breeding condition.

*C. trimaculatus*.

Ad. ♂. Rustenburg, South Africa. Total length 10·5 inches, wing 7·8, tail 5·8.

*C. trimaculatus* is a South-African species, of which our bird is the northern form.

We met with only two specimens of this new Nightjar at Gambaga, where it appears to be uncommon. It inhabits tree-grown kopjes, and is extremely hard to discover, since its plumage assimilates so well with the black slabs of rock, which it never seems to leave.

185. *MACRODIPTERYX LONGIPENNIS* (Shaw).

*Macrodipteryx macrodipterus* Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 594; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 24 (Togoland); Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. x. p. vii (Gambaga).

Gambaga and Salaga.

This Nightjar is common at Gambaga, being found in colonies in the open bush-land. On Dec. 28 a part of the native village took fire. It was quite a sight to see these Nightjars flitting to and fro near the burning houses,



catching the insects driven from the huts. They appeared suddenly in numbers on the scene as if from nowhere. Their shaft-feathers looked like small birds following them wherever they went, as they sailed backwards and forwards before the firelight.

It is interesting to watch this Nightjar courting his mate. Just as dusk is coming on the female appears from the adjoining bush and drops noiselessly on the road. She does not wait long before the male alights right in front of where she is sitting. Then the long wing-pinions are raised so that they droop towards her\*. Should the female shift her position, the male gives chase, to alight once again, like a feather-weight, in front of her.

186. *SCOTORNIS CLIMACURUS* (Vieill.).

*Scotornis climacurus* Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 596; id. Nov. Zool. vi. p. 410 (Gambaga).

Gambaga, Karaga, and Accra.

By no means common in the Hinterland, frequenting in pairs the dried-up beds of streams. At Accra it was fairly numerous. It has not yet been recorded from Togoland.

187. *EURYSTOMUS AFER* (Lath.).

*Eurystomus afer* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 30; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 20 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Gambaga and Sang.

188. *EURYSTOMUS GULARIS* Vieill.

*Eurystomus gularis* Sharpe, Cat. B. vii. p. 32; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 21 (Togoland).

Fumsu.

189. *CORACIAS ABYSSINICUS* Bodd.

*Coracias abyssinicus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 19; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 20 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

Common in the open country, where it is found in pairs.

\* Cf. Dict. of Birds, p. 641.



190. *CORACIAS NÆVIUS* Daud.

*Coracias nævus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 24; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 54 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 408 (Gambaga).

Karaga.

191. *DICROCERCUS FURCATUS* (Stanl.).

*Dicrocercus furcatus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 42; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 23 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 410 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

A rare migrant in the Hinterland, frequenting the wooded banks of streams.

192. *MELITTOPHAGUS PUSILLUS* (Müll.).

*Melittophagus pusillus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 47; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 23 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Gambaga and Salaga.

A resident in the Hinterland. Iris red; legs and feet brown.

193. *MELITTOPHAGUS GULARIS* (Shaw & Nodd.).

*Melittophagus gularis* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 50; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 410.

Prahsu and R. Volta.

A rare bird, found only in the forest-district.

194. *MELITTOPHAGUS BULLOCKI* (Vieill.).

*Melittophagus bullocki* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 51; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 23 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Upper White Volta River and Gambaga.

Found in the vicinity of water. Not common.

195. *MEROPS ALBICOLLIS* Vieill.

*Merops albicollis* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 76; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 23 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gold Coast).

Kwissa and Kumasi.

Common in the forest during October; observed in small parties.

196. *MEROPS NUBICUS* Gm.

*Merops nubicus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 85; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 23 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

So, Northern Territory.

A migrant in the Hinterland. These birds are fond of visiting the bush-fires, around which many may often be seen darting upon insects, regardless of the hot flames.

197. *IRRISOR ERYTHORHYNCHUS* (Lath.).

*Irrisor erythrorhynchus* Salvin, Cat. B. xvi. p. 19 (1892); Grant, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 37.

*Irrisor viridis senegalensis* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 24 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 410 (Gambaga).

Binduri (north of Gambaga).

Found in the open country in small parties. Breeds in holes in the baobab-trees.

198. *IRRISOR BOLLII* Salv.

*Irrisor bollii* Salvin, Cat. B. xvi. p. 20.

Kwissa, an adult male.

199. *LOPHOCEROS SEMIFASCIATUS* (Hartl.).

*Lophoceros semifasciatus* Grant, Cat. B. xvii. p. 402; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 20 (Togoland).

Prahsu, Kwissa, and Fumsu.

Very common. Native name "Chinchinna."

200. *LOPHOCEROS NASUTUS* (Linn.).

*Lophoceros nasutus* Grant, Cat. B. xvii. p. 406; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 20 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 410 (Gambaga).

Kintampo and Gambaga.

Common in the open country.

201. *LOPHOCEROS HARTLAUBI* (Gould).

*Lophoceros hartlaubi* Grant, Cat. B. xvii. p. 403.

Prahsu, Fumsu, and Kwissa.

Rare, and observed only in the depths of the forest.

## 202. ORTHOLOPHUS LEUCOLOPHUS (Sharpe).

*Ortholophus leucolophus* Grant, Cat. B. xvii. p. 426.

Prahsu and Fumsu.

This bird keeps much to the thickets, wending its way with agility through the maze of branches. Iris bluish black; legs and feet bluish slate-coloured, with the pads dirty yellow.

## 203. CERYLE MAXIMA (Pall.).

*Ceryle maxima* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 118; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 22 (Togoland).

River Volta.

## 204. ISPIDINA PICTA (Bodd.).

*Ispidina picta* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 191; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 22 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Cape Coast, Kintampo, and Gambaga.

## 205. HALCYON SEMICÆRULEUS (Forsk.).

*Halcyon semicæruleus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 232; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 21 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Gambaga and Salaga.

## 206. HALCYON CHELICUTI (Stanley).

*Halcyon chelicuti* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 239; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 21 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Kumasi, Kintampo, Gambaga, and Pong.

## 207. HALCYON SENEGALENSIS (Linn.).

*Halcyon senegalensis* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 242; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 21 (Togoland).

Monse Hills and Kwissa.

This Kingfisher is very shy, always keeping to the tops of the tall forest-trees, whence it utters a loud running chatter, generally heard towards evening.

## 208. HALCYON FORBESI Sharpe.

*Halcyon forbesi* Sharpe, Cat. B. xvii. p. 247, pl. vi. fig. 2;



Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 21 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 409 (Gambaga).

Salaga and Yeji.

We found this remarkable Kingfisher along the shady belts of trees on the streams. It was a shy bird and by no means common, besides being locally distributed. The cry uttered by the male was loud and harsh. Towards evening it was frequently observed to mount high in the air, where it would remain for some time, hovering after the manner of a Kestrel. It breeds in April.

209. *TURACUS MACRORHYNCHUS* (Fraser).

*Turacus macrorhynchus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 441 (1881).  
Prahsu, Fumsu, and Kwissa.

In the adult male the upper mandible is yellow, orange at the lower part of the base, the lower mandible red, the iris bluish black, the eyelids are coral, and the legs and feet black.

210. *MUSOPHAGA VIOLACEA* Isert.

*Musophaga violacea* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 448; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 13 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

This species haunts the vicinity of streams and is generally observed in pairs. The male, in the mating-season, which is in April, utters a turkey-like gobble.

211. *SCHIZORHIS AFRICANA* (Lath.).

*Schizorhis africana* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 450; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 14 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

White Volta River.

This species inhabits open tree-grown country and is generally found in pairs. It always selects the topmost boughs of a tree upon which to alight.

212. *CEUTHMOCHARES FLAVIROSTRIS* (Swains.).

*Ceuthmochares flavirostris* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 401; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 15 (Togoland).

Prahsu and Fumsu.

A common bird in the forest, haunting the thickets, through which it works its way with wonderful agility. Bill yellow; iris red.

213. *CENTROPUS LEUCOGASTER* (Leach).

*Centropus leucogaster* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 358; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 14 (Togoland).

Prahsu.

We often heard the deep bubbling notes of this bird in the middle of the night during October, which is the breeding-season.

214. *CENTROPUS MONACHUS* Rüpp.

*Centropus monachus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 359.

Pong.

215. *CENTROPUS SENEGALENSIS* (Linn.).

*Centropus senegalensis* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 360; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 14 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Krachi and Pong.

Our immature birds are very much barred on the mantle, back, and wings, while the under parts as far as the breast are strongly washed with tawny rufous.

This species is very common both in the Hinterland and in the colony.

216. *COCCYSTES GLANDARIUS* (Linn.).

*Coccytes glandarius* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 212; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

217. *COCCYSTES CAFER* (Licht.).

*Coccytes cafer* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 221; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 15 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Kwissa and Gambaga.

218. *CHRYSOCOCCYX SMARAGDINEUS* (Swains.).

*Chrysococcyx smaragdineus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 280.

Fumsu.

219. *CHRYSOCOCCYX KLAASI* (Steph.).

*Chrysococcyx klaasi* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 283; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Prahsu.

220. *CHRYSOCOCCYX CUPREUS* (Bodd.).

*Chrysococcyx cupreus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 285; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 15 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Karaga.

221. *INDICATOR SPARRMANNI* Steph.

*Indicator indicator* (Gm.); Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 5; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 412 (Gambaga).

Upper White Volta River.

222. *INDICATOR STICTITHORAX* Reichen.

*Indicator stictithorax* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 8.

Kwissa.

This rare Honey-guide is represented in the British Museum by a specimen from the Cameroon Mountains (*H. H. Johnston*). It appears to be found only in mountainous districts. Our bird was obtained on the Monse Hills, 1300 feet.

223. *INDICATOR MINOR* Steph.

*Indicator minor* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 9.

Kintampo and Gambaga.

224. *INDICATOR WILLCOCKSI*. (Plate VIII.)

*Indicator willcocksii* Alexander, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 11 (October 1901).

Most nearly allied to *I. exilis*, but slightly larger. Upper parts golden olive, striped with blackish centres to the feathers, almost uniform on crown and nape, the blackish centres becoming more strongly marked on the back; no dusky band below the cheeks and ear-coverts; sides of neck and under parts ashy olive, fading into creamy white on the lower breast and abdomen; wing and central tail-feathers black, edged with golden yellow. Total length (measured in the flesh) 4·5 inches, wing 2·8, tail 2, tarsus 0·4.





Litho W. Greve. Berlin S.W

INDICATOR WILCOCKSI

A single female specimen of this new species was obtained at Prahsu in October 1901. We frequently observed this little *Indicator* whenever a swarm of flying ants appeared. It would dart upon them and then retire to its original perch to devour its prey.

225. *POGONORHYNCHUS DUBIUS* (Gm.).

*Pogonorhynchus dubius* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 15; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Busunu and Gambaga.

This bird is seen singly or in pairs, frequenting open country. Towards evening it repairs to holes in trees to roost.

The sexes are alike in plumage.

226. *MELANOBUCCO BIDENTATUS* (Shaw).

*Melanobucco bidentatus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 18.

*Pogonorhynchus bidentatus* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 17 (Togoland).

Lower White Volta River.

227. *MELANOBUCCO VIEILLOTI* (Leach).

*Melanobucco vieilloti* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 26; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 412 (Gambaga).

*Pogonorhynchus vieilloti* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 17 (Togoland).

Kintampo and Gambaga. Breeds in March. Common. Iris red.

228. *TRICHOLÆMA HIRSUTA* (Swains.).

*Tricholæma hirsutum* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 28; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 17 (Togoland).

Prahsu, Fumsu, and Kwissa.

Common in the forest.

229. *GYMNOBUCCO CALVUS* (Lafr.).

*Gymnobucco calvus* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 34.

*Gymnobucco peli* Hartl. Orn. W.-Afr. p. 175 (1857); id. J. f. O. 1861, p. 263.

Prahsu and Fumsu.

The sexes of all our specimens were determined. The

adult males have the frontal tufts and the outer portions of the secondaries narrowly edged with olive and the under parts washed with the same colour. The females have no frontal tufts, but carry a small tuft of bristles on the chin: they are a little larger than the males, and have no olive edges to the secondaries. The immature bird has no tufts, either on the front or on the chin; the upper mandible is blackish.

This species is numerous in the forest. Whenever flying ants begin to swarm, numbers of these birds appear on the scene and catch them with avidity.

230. *BARBATULA CHRYSOCOMA* (Temm.).

*Barbatula chrysocoma* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 42; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 16 (Togoland).

Gambaga.

Rare, and only once observed.

231. *BARBATULA LEUCOLEMA* Verr.

*Barbatula leucolæma* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 45; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897; p. 16 (Togoland).

Cape Coast and Pong.

232. *BARBATULA SCOLOPACEA* (Temm.).

*Barbatula scolopacea* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 47; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 17 (Togoland).

Prahsu and Kwissa.

233. *TRACHYPHONUS GOFFINI* Schl.

*Trachyphonus goffini* Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 106.

Prahsu and Kwissa.

234. *CAMPOTHERA PUNCTATA* (Valenc.).

*Campothera punctata* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 96; Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 131.

*Dendromus punctatus* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 18 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Sang and Kwobia.

Common at these localities.

235. *CAMPOTHERA MACULOSA* (Valenc.).

*Campothera maculosa* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 104.

Prahsu.

Rare.



## 236. CAMPOTHERA NIVOSA (Swains.).

*Campothera nivos*a Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 108.

*Dendromus nivosus* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 18 (Togoland).  
Prahsu.

## 237. DENDROPICUS LAFRESNAYI Malh.

*Dendropicus lafresnayi* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 301 ;  
Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 17 (Togoland).

Upper White Volta, Krachi, and Pong.

In our immature bird (♂) the upper parts are duller than in the adult; there is no red on the upper tail-coverts, and the occiput and crown are dark brown, some of the feathers being tipped with red; the forehead is dark brown, mixed with the light brown of the new feathers.

In the adult male obtained at Pong there is no tinge of red on the upper tail-coverts, though the red on the crown has been almost assumed.

The specimen from the Volta, which is fully adult, has the upper tail-coverts tinged with red and marked with faint dusky bars, while the back, scapulars, and rump are uniform golden olive. The immature male of this species is therefore nearly similar to the adult female, especially resembling the latter in possessing the dark brown head before the red feathers are assumed. We much doubt whether *D. sharpii* of Oustalet (see Cat. B. xviii. p. 302) is specifically distinct from the present species, if the lack of red on the upper tail-coverts in the former is the only distinguishing character.

## 238. IYNGIPICUS OBSOLETUS (Wagl.).

*Iyngipicus obsoletus* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 336; Hartert,  
Nov. Zool. vi. p. 411 (Gambaga).

Only observed at Gambaga, where it is scarce.

## 239. MESOPICUS GOERTAN (Müll.).

*Mesopicus goertan* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 368; Reichen.  
J. f. O. 1897, p. 18 (Togoland).

Kintampo, Krachi, and Gambaga.

We met with this species a few miles from the forest-belt, where in the more or less open country it is fairly numerous and is found in pairs. This Woodpecker does not utter

any cry or alarm-note; but the male, when flying, makes a peculiar noise with its wings, which can be heard at some distance. On hearing it, the female at once quits the tree where she is and follows the male.

240. *MESOPICUS PYRRHOGASTER* (Malh.).

*Mesopicus pyrrhogaster* Hargitt, Cat. B. xviii. p. 373; Reichen. J. f. O. 1892, p. 18 (Togoland).

Prahsu, Fumsu, and Kwissa.

Common in the forest, haunting the dead trees in couples, the two birds always keeping close to one another. In order to ensure their places being known to each other, a loud drilling tap, answered immediately by the partner, is made use of.

241. *VINAGO WAALIA* (Gm.).

*Vinago waalia* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 15; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

Observed in small flocks at Gambaga.

242. *VINAGO CALVA* (Temm. & Knip).

*Vinago calva* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 20.

*Treron calva* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 8 (Togoland).

The female of this Pigeon differs from the male in being smaller, in having the vinous patch on the shoulder much less, and little or no French grey on the nape.

243. *COLUMBA GYMNOCYCLA* Gray.

*Columba gymnocyclus* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 257; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

Our two specimens, which are in fresh plumage, are a little paler on the upper parts than specimens from the Gambia in the British Museum. Intermediate shades, however, seem to occur between the dark forms and our paler examples, the dark birds probably coming from countries nearer the coast, where the rainfall is greater. We only observed these Pigeons at Gambaga, where they were very wild. They breed in holes in steep rocky declivities. About the middle of April they appeared in small flocks, in company with

*Columba guinea*, on the newly-sown grain-plots outside the village. This seems to be a decidedly local species.

244. COLUMBA GUINEA Linn.

*Columba guinea* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 266; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

During the dry season, from November to the beginning of April, these Pigeons are seldom seen in the Hinterland, but as soon as the first rain has fallen they appear on the newly-sown fields in large flocks, and may be seen from early morning till evening.

245. TURTUR SEMITORQUATUS (Rüpp.).

*Turtur semitorquatus* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 416; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 6 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

White Volta River.

This Dove is usually found on the wooded banks of the rivers.

246. TURTUR VINACEUS (Gm.).

*Turtur vinaceus* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 428; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 7 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

Kintampo and Binduri.

This is an abundant species in the Hinterland.

*Turtur senegalensis* was also observed at Gambaga, where it is plentiful.

247. CHALCOPELIA PUELLA (Schl.).

*Chalcopelia puella* Salvad. Cat. B. xxi. p. 523; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 8 (Togoland).

Prahsu and Fumsu.

This beautiful little Dove is rare, keeping chiefly to the thickest part of the forest. In the Hinterland beyond the forest-region it is represented by *C. afra*, which is common.

248. PŒOCEPHALUS KINTAMPOENSIS Alexander.

*Pœocephalus kintampoensis* Alexander, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 10, Oct. 1901.



This is a northern form of *P. fuscicollis*, but differs in having the under-parts, rump, and upper tail-coverts bright *bluish green* instead of *grass-green*. The wing-coverts, secondaries, and feathers of the back are olive-brown, strongly washed with verditer. The bill is stronger than in *P. fuscicollis*. Tip of lower mandible .05 inch, width of lower mandible 1.0, width of upper mandible 1.0. Total length (measured in the flesh) 12.2 inches, wing 8.5, tail 4.3, tarsus 0.8.

The specimen described is an old female obtained at Kintampo on Dec. 7, 1900. We noticed several of these Parrots at Kintampo, but it was next to impossible to get near them, since they were very shy and always flew high, uttering from time to time a guttural cry.

249. *PŒOCEPHALUS VERSTERI* (Goffin).

*Pœocephalus versteri* Salvad. Cat. B. xx. p. 372; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 13 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 408 (Gambaga).

Kwobia.

This Parrot is of local distribution, but in favoured localities, especially in the vicinity of water and acacia-trees, it is numerous, and towards evening may be seen in numbers on the wing.

250. *PALÆORNIS DOCILIS* (Vieill.).

*Palæornis docilis* Salvad. Cat. B. xx. p. 447; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 408 (Gambaga).

Upper White Volta River and Sekwi.

This species, like the former, is very locally distributed. We observed it near Busu in December in very large flocks, frequenting the guinea-corn plantations, the corn being then nearly ripe. Our next observation of the species was near Salaga in May, when we obtained a single specimen out of a pair.

251. *AGAPORNIS PULLARIA* (Linn.).

*Agapornis pullaria* Salvad. Cat. B. xx. p. 510; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 13 (Togoland).

Krachi.



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GLAUCIDIUM ALBIVENTER

252. *GLAUCIDIUM PERLATUM* (Vieill.) .

*Glaucidium perlatum* Sharpe, Cat. B. ii. p. 209 (1875); Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 13 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 408 (Gambaga).

Ad. ♂. Total length (measured in the flesh) 7·6 inches, wing 4·1, tail 3·6.

Ad. ♀. Total length (measured in the flesh) 8·2 inches, wing 4·2, tail 3·5.

253. *GLAUCIDIUM ALBIVENTER*. (Plate IX.)

*Glaucidium albiventer* Alexander, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 10.

Similar to *G. perlatum* (Vieill.), but with the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts pure white; the feathers of the flanks with only a few streaks of brownish black. Total length (measured in the flesh) 8·2 inches, wing 4·5, tail 3·5, tarsus 0·98.

We obtained a single female specimen of this Owl out of a pair at Kwobia in May 1901.

254. *BUBO CINERASCENS* Guérin.

*Bubo cinerascens* Sharpe, Cat. B. ii. p. 32; Reichen. J. f. O. 1892, p. 234 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 408 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

Inhabits tree-grown kopjes in the open country. It is a scarce bird.

255. *BUBO LACTEUS* Temm.

*Bubo lacteus* Sharpe, Cat. B. ii. p. 33 (1875).

Kwobia.

Our male specimen differs from the female in being a little darker on the back and in having the chest-feathers much less vermiculated with white, contrasting with the lighter coloration and breast.

256. *FALCO RUFICOLLIS* Swains.

*Falco ruficollis* Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 404.

Gambaga.

257. *TINNUNCULUS ALOPEX* Heugl.

*Cerchneis alopex* Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 432; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 407 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.



Our female specimen (2/3/91) agrees with an example of the same sex in the British Museum from Bogosland.

This rare Hawk is a migrant in the Hinterland. It was observed in pairs from December till the beginning of February.

*Adult female.* Total length (in the flesh) 16·5 inches, wing 11·6, tail 8·8, culmen 0·8, tarsus 1·9. Iris brown; legs and feet greenish yellow; claws brownish black; bill bluish horn-coloured.

258. *HALIAËTUS VOCIFER* (Daud.).

*Haliaëtus vocifer* Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 310.

Common on the lower reaches of the Volta River.

259. *DRYOTRIORCHIS SPECTABILIS* (Schl.).

*Dryotriorchis spectabilis* Shelley, Ibis, 1874, p. 90; Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 279; Oberholser, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. xxii. p. 26 (Liberia).

An adult male (17/3/00) from Prahsu.

260. *ASTURINULA MONOGRAMMICA* (Temm.).

*Asturinula monogrammica* Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 275.

*Kaupifalco monogrammicus* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 10 (Togoland).

Gambaga.

During the dry season in the Hinterland, from November to May, all the Falcons are more plentiful than at other periods of the year. This is accounted for by the long grass being burnt by the natives after the rains, when the ground, being more clear, affords a better opportunity to the Hawks for observing their prey.

261. *ASTUR SPHENURUS* (Rüpp.).

*Astur sphenurus* Sharpe, Cat. B. i. p. 112; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 10 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 407 (1899) (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

262. *ARDEA BUBULCUS* (Aud.).

*Herodias lucidus* Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 157.

*Bubulcus ibis* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 6 (Togoland).

*Bubulcus lucidus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 213.

Busunu.

This Heron frequents the old guinea-corn fields.

263. BUTORIDES ATRICAPILLA Afz.

*Butorides atricapilla* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 172; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 6 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 407 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

Usually found near running streams.

264. SCOPUS UMBRETTA Gm.

*Scopus umbretta* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 288; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 5 (Togoland).

Gambaga.

265. CICONIA ALBA Bechst.

*Ciconia ciconia* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 299.

At Daboya and Gambaga there were large colonies of the White Stork, especially at the former place, where the tall baobab-trees were covered with their bulky nests. They breed in December, and leave with their young in May, before the rains commence.

266. PHALACROCORAX AFRICANUS (Gm.).

*Phalacrocorax africanus* Grant, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 407; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 2 (Togoland)

River Volta.

267. PLOTUS LEVAILLANTI Licht.

*Plotus levillanti* Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 161; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 2 (Togoland).

*Plotus rufus* Grant, Cat. B. xxvi. p. 412.

River Volta.

268. LIMNOCORAX NIGER (Gm.).

*Limnocorax niger* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 150.

River Volta.

269. TURNIX LEPURANA (Smith).

*Turnix lepurana* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 539.

Accra.

Common on the Accra Plains.

## 270. EXCALFACTORIA ADANSONI (Verr.).

*Excalfactoria adansoni* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 255.

Pong.

Found on waste land, covered with short dry grass. Observed in coveys of five or six birds.

## 271. FRANCOLINUS ALBIGULARIS Gray.

*Francolinus albigularis* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 149; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 405 (Gambaga).

*Francolinus buckleyi* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 145.

Gambaga and Sang.

The two male specimens of this species in the British Museum, one of which is the type, differ from the Gambaga examples in having the under parts uniform and of a warmer buff colour. In our specimens of both sexes the feathers of the fore-neck, sides of chest, and flanks are broadly edged with rufous, and the under parts are a paler buff. The Gambian examples, judged by their spurs and their clearer breasts, are older birds. Our female obtained on Jan. 27th differs from our male specimens in the following characters:—The creamy-white shaft-stripes on the lower hind-neck and back are narrower, and the greater portion of the feathers are grey with black transverse bars on the margins of their webs. A chain of blackish-brown spots commences from the lores and circumscribes the whole of the throat. On the webs of some of the chest-feathers are thin blackish bars, while a few of the flank-feathers have their inner webs chestnut, broadly barred with black.

This specimen can certainly be united to the examples of *F. buckleyi* in the British Museum, obtained by Capt. Shelley at Accra. We have, therefore, no hesitation in confirming Mr. Hartert's opinion on this matter, and in making *F. buckleyi* synonymous with *F. albigularis*.

At Gambaga we found this Francolin rare and locally distributed, and only observed it on two occasions.

## 272. FRANCOLINUS BICALCARATUS (Linn.).

*Francolinus bicalcaratus* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 160;



Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 7 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 405 (Gambaga).

Gambaga and Sugerri (Gold Coast Hinterland).

This Francolin is abundant. We have seen as many as forty birds in one flock.

In our series there are two forms. An adult male (with well-developed spurs) and a female, obtained at Sugerri, have the feathers of the chest and the remainder of the under parts warm buff, contrasting with the pale whitish buff of the other specimen.

273. *PTILOPACHYS FUSCUS*.

*Ptilopachys fuscus* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 256; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 9 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 405 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

Not common, generally found in small flocks in thick short grass. Towards evening dead fallen trees are often made use of as look-out posts. During the heat of the day rocky kopjes in the vicinity of running streams are frequented. When disturbed the birds take refuge in the crannies of the rocks. The male looks very much like a little bantam cock, extremely pert and always strutting about with its tail raised.

The end of February is the breeding-season, when they are found in pairs.

The male differs from the female in having the patch on the breast buff-coloured instead of white.

274. *NUMIDA MELEAGRIS* (Linn.).

*Numida meleagris* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 375; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 8 (Togoland).

Everywhere abundant, from the White Volta northwards to Gambaga. Many individuals are kept by the natives in a domestic state, especially by the chiefs of the large villages.

275. *PTEROCLES QUADRICINCTUS* Temm.

*Pterocles quadricinctus* Grant, Cat. B. xxii. p. 32; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 406 (Gambaga).

Gambaga.

In January we found this Sand-Grouse in pairs. Capt. Gifford obtained a young bird in the same month.

There seems no doubt that the bird breeds in the Hinterland. During the dry season it is fairly numerous, but as soon as the rains commence and the bush-grass becomes thick it disappears.

276. OTIS DENHAMI Children.

*Otis denhami* Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 185.

*Neotis denhami* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 302.

Salaga.

At the end of March a few pairs of this Bustard appeared in the open localities around Gambaga. At Salaga, where the country is still more open, we came across two young birds.

277. OTIS MELANOGASTER Rüpp.

*Otis melanogaster* Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 185.

*Lissotis melanogaster* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 306.

Kwobia.

A single individual observed. It was very tame and easily approached.

278. OTIS SENEGALENSIS Vieill.

*Otis senegalensis* Shelley, B. Afr. i. p. 186.

*Trachelotis melanogaster* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 310.

Binduri (north of Gambaga).

Five individuals of this rare Bustard were seen on stretches of stone-strewn ground at Binduri, about 60 miles north of Gambaga. We never observed it anywhere else.

279. LOBIVANELLUS ALBICEPS (Gould).

*Lobivanellus albiceps* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 4 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 404 (Gambaga).

River Volta.

280. TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS (Linn.).

*Totanus hypoleucus* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 4 (Togoland).

*Tringoides hypoleucus* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiv. p. 456; Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 404 (Gambaga).

River Fum, Fumsu.

281. *EDICNEMUS SENEGALENSIS* Swains.

*Edicnemus senegalensis* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiv. p. 10; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 3 (Togoland).

Binduri (north of Gambaga) and River Volta.

282. *PLUVIANUS ÆGYPTIUS* (Linn.).

*Pluvianus ægyptius* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiv. p. 32; Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 3 (Togoland); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 404 (Gambaga).

River Volta (near Yeji). Also observed near Gambaga. Common, frequenting the rivers in small parties.

283. *GLAREOLA MARCHII* Oust.

*Galactochrysea marchei* Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiv. p. 726.

*Glareola megapoda* Reichen. J. f. O. 1897, p. 3 (Togoland).

River Volta (near Krachi).

We found this bird in small colonies, frequenting the rocky portions of the river from Krachi downwards.

We never met with *G. cinerea*, though it has been obtained on this river, and by Capt. Gifford on the Upper White Volta, near Gambaga. It must be a rare bird.

Our examples of *G. marchii* are paler on the upper and under parts than the specimens in the British Museum from the Niger. The habit which this bird has of basking on the rocks in the full glare of the sun must soon bleach the plumage and cause the gloss to disappear from the upper parts.

XXIV.—*Field-notes on the Birds of Bellenden-Ker, Queensland.* By KENDAL BROADBENT.

THE following list comprises the names of the species which I met with on Mount Bellenden-Ker, the highest mountain in Queensland, during the months of June, July, and August 1889. As specimens from that locality have been from time to time mentioned in various works, I think that it may be of interest to the readers of 'The Ibis' to have full particulars in their hands. The aggregate would have been greater had



it not been that winter weather forces the birds down to the lower lands, while the migrants have at that season left the district. Rain and mist, moreover, were great hindrances to my work\*.

1. *ASTUR APPROXIMANS* Vig. et Horsf. (Campbell, op. cit. p. 6).

Found up to an altitude of 3000 feet.

2. *ACCIPITER CIRRHOCEPHALUS* (Vieill.) (op. cit. p. 9).

Occurred on Mount Sophia at 1800 feet.

3. *NINOX STRENUA* Gould (op. cit. p. 48).

A pair of these birds were seen at Palm Camp, alt. 4000 feet. They are true denizens of the mountains and are always found in dark scrubby gullies. I have shot specimens on the Sea-View Range, at the back of Cardwell, and on Mount Echo up the Herbert River, as well as on the Luluki River (New Guinea).

4. *STREPERA GRACULINA* (White) (op. cit. p. 58).

Specimens of this bird, which is common all over the Cairns and Cardwell districts, were obtained at 4000 feet. In its nest the Channel-billed Cuckoo (*Scythrops nova-hollandiæ*) lays its eggs. I have seen about three hundred of these Crow-Shrikes, in January, in company with quite a hundred Channel-billed Cuckoos, in the mountains twenty-five miles from Cardwell, at the head of the Murray River.

5. *PTILORHIS VICTORIÆ* Gould (op. cit. p. 69).

This is the Queensland "Bird of Paradise," common at 3000 feet on Bellenden-Ker, and also found at Herberton (4500 feet), Barnard's Isle off Cardwell, and in the big scrub from forty miles out of Townsville to as far as the Bloomfield River, over a range of two hundred miles. It is more plentiful on the western side than on the eastern fall, as there are big open scrubs on that side in which Cassowaries and *Orthonyx* abound.

[\* The arrangement followed is that of Mr. A. J. Campbell's recent work on the Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds, to which references are added.—EDD.]

6. *ORIOLOUS AFFINIS* Gould (op. cit. p. 79).

Found at 1800 feet on Bellenden-Ker; common throughout North Queensland to Cape York.

7. *SPHECOTHERES FLAVIVENTRIS* Gould (op. cit. p. 84).

On Bellenden-Ker at 3000 feet, and from Cardwell to Cape York.

8. *COLLYRIOCINCLA HARMONICA* (Lath.) (op. cit. p. 88).

At 2000 feet on Bellenden-Ker. This species is a grand whistler in the morning. In Gippsland (Victoria) I have heard it mock the Lyre-birds. It is found throughout the States to the Gulf of Carpentaria. On Sweer's Island the birds seem somewhat paler than elsewhere, but are undoubtedly identical and have the same habits.

9. *COLLYRIOCINCLA BOWERI* Ramsay (op. cit. p. 92).

I shot a specimen of this bird on the Sea-View Range, and another on Bellenden-Ker at 4000 feet. This is the largest species of the genus and has a grand call-note. It ranges over Cardwell back-scrubs, Herberton (4000 feet), Bellenden-Ker, and North-west Australia.

10. *PINAROLESTES RUFIGASTER* (Gould) (op. cit. p. 93).

Found at 3000 feet on Bellenden-Ker, and all over the Cardwell district to Cape York.

11. *GRAUCALUS MENTALIS* Vig. & Horsf. (op. cit. p. 98).

Found at Granite Creek, Bellenden-Ker. This is a West-Queensland bird, and is met with at Chinchilla (380 feet) and at Port Moresby.

12. *LALAGE LEUCOMELÆNA* (Vig. & Horsf.) (op. cit. p. 104).

Found on Bellenden-Ker up to 1800 feet. Very common at all times in the scrubs near Brisbane, at Nerang Creek, and at Cardwell.

13. *MICRÆCA FLAVIGASTRA* Gould (op. cit. p. 107).

Met with on Barnard's Spur (1800 feet). Found all through the Cardwell district to Cape York, where it was first discovered by MacGillivray.